

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16. (canceled).

Claim 17. (new) A method for call control in an exchange of a communication network, the method comprising the steps of:

using an information element of a signaling message for signaling between exchanges in the communication network;

embedding at least one administrative function to the call control of the exchange at predetermined locations;

evaluating, based on said at least one administrative function, at least one content value of the informational element contained in the signaling message; and

altering, based on said at least one administrative function, at least one content value of the informational element contained in the at least one signaling message, wherein the content value defines an operational characteristic of the informational element.

Claim 18. (new) An apparatus for call control in an exchange of a communication network, comprising:

means for using an information element of a signaling message for signaling between exchanges in the communication network;

means for embedding at least one administrative function to the call control of the exchange at predetermined locations;

means for evaluating, based on said at least one administrative function, at least one content value of the informational element contained in the signaling message; and

means for altering, based on said at least one administrative function, at least one content value of the informational element contained in the at least one signaling message, wherein the content value defines an operational characteristic of the informational element.